

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

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USDEL JEC PARIS

S E C R E T SAIGON 13389

LIMDIS PSYOP MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS VS

SUBJ:SAIGON NORTH VIET-NAM COMMITTEE REPORT, SEPT 1974

1. VOICE OF FREEDOM (VOF) BROADCASTS: EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARIES FEATURED COVERAGE OF CORRUPTION AND MISMANAGEMENT IN NVN, NOTING THAT HANOI'S ECONOMIC MALAISE STEMS FROM VWP'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO TAKE OVER SVN AND FROM NORTHERN REGIME'S SUPPRESSION OF PEOPLE'S RIGHTS. IN MOVE SIMILAR TO THAT TAKEN BY OFFICIAL GVN MEDIA, VOF SIGNIFICANTLY DECREASED REFERENCES TO FORTHCOMING COMMUNIST GENERAL OFFENSIVE IN FAVOR OF ACCUSATIONS THAT HANOI HAS NOT ABANDONED GOAL OF TAKING OVER SOUTH AND HAS 'ESCALATED' CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS. GVN CONTRIBUTION OF ALMOST 3 MILLION U.S. DOLLARS TO ICCS WAS DECLARED DEMONSTRATION OF GOODWILL AND CONTRASTED WITH COMMUNIST ATTEMPTS TO PARALYZE ICCS AND CONTINUE VIOLATING CEASEFIRE PROVISIONS. NOTING POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH, VOF STRESSED

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DEMOCRATIC NATURE OF GVN AND ASKED IF PEOPLE OF NVN HAVE

RIGHT TO OPENLY EXPRESS THEIR GRIEVANCES?' ADDRESSING SAME SUBJECT, VOF AFFIRMED THAT PEACE CAN BE RESTORED IN SOUTH VIETNAM ONLY WHEN COMMUNISTS RELINQUISH POLICY OF VIOLENCE, RESPECT PARIS AGREEMENT AND NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY WITH RVN.

2. CONTENT ANALYSIS OF VOF EDITORIAL MATERIAL AS FOLLOWS:

LIFE IN THE NORTH, 23 PERCENT; LIFE IN THE SOUTH, 19 PERCENT; CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS AND COMMUNIST WARLIKE AIMS, 17 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, 12 PERCENT; DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES AND INTERNATIONAL (INCLUDING U.S.) SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, 8 PERCENT; NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, 4 PERCENT; GVN MILITARY PROGRESS, 3 PERCENT; AND OTHER (ALL LESS THAN 3 PERCENT, 14 PERCENT

3. ALTHOUGH PRINCIPAL GVN OUTPUT CONTINUED TO PROVIDE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF COMMUNIST CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS AND TERRORISM, GOVT MEDIA GENERALLY ABANDONED THEME OF FORTHCOMING COMMUNIST GENERAL OFFENSIVE, CONCENTRATING INSTEAD ON CONDEMNATION OF LONG-RANGE NORTH VIETNAMESE GOAL OF TAKING OVER SVN BY FORCE. TWO MAJOR NEW THEMES EMERGED DURING PERIOD, BOTH LINKED TO DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. IN RESPONSE TO FORMATION OF 'NATIONAL RECONCILIATION FORCE' BY OPPOSITIONIST BUDDHIST ELEMENTS, NUMEROUS EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARIES ATTACKED 'NATIONAL RECONCILIATION' THEME AS 'DECEITFUL' COMMUNIST PROPOGANDA. EXTENSIVE COVERAGE WAS PROVIDED ONGOING SERIES OF MINISTRY OF INFORMATION-SPONSORED 'POLITICAL STUDY SESSIONS' HELD TO COUNTER SUCH PROPAGANDA, AND RADIO AND TELEVISION SLOGANS CALLED ON SVC PEOPLE TO REMAIN VIGILANT IN FACE OF PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN 'AIMED AT SUPPORTING COMMUNIST INVASION OF SVN'. PUBLIC ACCUSATIONS OF CORRUPTION AND REPRESSION AIMED AT PRES THIEU GENERATED HEAVY MEDIA FOCUS ON NEED FOR INTERNAL UNITY ' TO STRUGGLE FOR PEACE.' SEPT 19 RADIO COMMENTARY REFLECTED THEME BY STATING 'LACK OF NATIONAL UNITY AT THIS TIME WILL AFFORD COMMUNISTS OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE PRESENT ATTACKS.'

4. CONTENT ANALYSIS OF GVN PROPAGANDA (BOTH VTVN AND PRINTED OUTPUT) YIELDED FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN: COMMUNIST CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, 12 PERCENT; COMMUNIST PLANS TO TAKE OVER SVN, 9 PERCENT; COMMUNIST TERRORISM, 7 PERCENT; COMBATTING COMMUNISTS' 'DECEITFUL PROPAGANDA,' 12 PERCENT; DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 10 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, 10

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PERCENT; INTERNAL UNITY, 9 PERCENT; RVN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES, 7 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, 6 PERCENT; DEVELOPMENT OF OFF-SHORE PETROLEUM RESOURCES, 4 PERCENT; AND OTHER (ALL LESS THAN 3 PERCENT), 14 PERCENT.

5. VOA PROGRAMMING: BROADCAST FEEDS FROM POST DURING PERIOD INCLUDED AS MAJOR REPORTAGE: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE TO RVN AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS; REMARKS

BY VISITING GAMBIAN FONMIN CALLING ON BOTH SIDES IN VN TO
NEGOTIATE END TO FIGHTING; USAID AND WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE TO
RVN IN CONSTRUCTION OF FERTILIZER PLANT; 9-NATION ASIAN TOURIST
AND INVESTMENT ORGANIZATION TEAM STUDY ON TOURIST AND INVESTMENT
POSSIBILITIES IN RVN; GVN FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNATION OF
COMMUNIST FAILURE TO CONTRIBUTE TO ICCS BUDGET; DEPARTURE PRESS
CONFERENCE OF VISITING TURKISH PARLIAMENTARY DEL; AND RVN
FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE TO SIGNATORIES TO INTERNATIONAL ACT ON
VN PROTESTING COMMUNIST SEIZURE OF GIA VUC BASE IN QUANG NGAI
PROVINCE.

6. COVERT RADIO ACTIVITY IS REPORTED SEPARATELY.
MARTIN

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